# ADMIRAL KOLCHAK VAINLY DENIED WHOLESALE MURDERS ON THE LAST DAY OF TRIAL THAT RESULTED IN HIS DEATH

# RUSSIAN DESPOT DIED LIKE A MAN AFTER HIS FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

Cross-Examined as to the Slaughter of 500 Workmen. Flogging of Women and Execution of Innocent Members of Constituent Assembly, III-Fated Dictator Protested Complete Ignorance of Such Outrages—Defended Burning of Villages as Defensive Measure, Claiming They Were Fortified, Rebellious Towns.

By HERMAN BERNSTEIN.

On the ninth and last day of his trial, Admiral Kolchak was crossexamined by several members of the revolutionary tribunal regarding outrages committed during his resime, such as the execution of innocent members of the constituent assembly, the wholesale murder of workmen without trial, and floggings of women by order of his officials. Kolchak's answers on these asserted Alexevev. points were evasive. In most instances he pleaded ignorance.

The man chosen as dictator, or supreme ruler, regarded by allied representatives as Russia's savior, and encouraged by them, practically admitted that he was but a marionettte in the hands of others whose interests were not the interests of the Russian people.

One of the judges, M. Alexeyev, said:

"I have questioned you concerning your relations with Regnault, the French high commissioner. You said these relations were purely those of one officer toward another. Yet in a letter by Madame Timereva, dated September 17, repeating the impressions she had gathered during your voyage from Japan to Vladivo-stok, the said that you entered an alliance with Regnault." Admiral Kolchak said:

"From Japan I traveled with Regnault. We did not discuss politics. It was an ordinary acquaint-

#### Kolchak's Denials

"In your estimate of the attitude of the army toward the coup d'etat the volunteer forces played an important role. What was their opinion of the situation?" asked thee

"I do not know, but their representative in Chelyabinsk told me that in general the army was hostile to the committee of the constituent assembly and the directorate. Even Fortunatov's troops were against them. Fortunatov was in command of the Regiment of the Constituent Assembly."

"It is known that immediately after the coup d'etat the volunteer army and even the Siberian army were against the overthrow of the directorate, but were told that Admiral Kolchak was acting in the name of the directorate, that the directorate remained in power. This was done because the sentiment of the soldiers was such that it was believed they would leave the front

in order to liquidate the coup d'etat," Answering this, Kolchak said: "I did not know this. Even Fortunatov recognized the coup d'etat

and offered no resistance to the ar-

rest of the members of the con-

stituent assembly who had chal-

lenged us." One of the judges, M. Pepov, asked:

"Do you know that people were thrown into prison because of intercepted letters containing unfavorable comment about the supreme

## Czech Opposition

Kolchak answered in the nega-

Alexeyev asked: "How did representatives of the

foreign governments regard the coup-I mean those in Omsk at the time and those who came there Kolchak replied: "As far as I remember, the repre-

sentative of the United States, Harris, and the representative of France, Regnault, were in Omsk at the time. The Britsh representative was not there yet. Only Colonel Ward was present. General Knox came later. Japan was represented Czechs had their military representatives-Koshek and Richter. In

called on me was very favorable. "Harris, the American representative, treated me in a spirit of great friendship. His attitude was extremely favorable to me. He was one of the few representatives of the United States who wanted to

September, 1921. Virgo rules the

region around the Mesopotamia

from the Tigris to the Euphrates

Germany and parts of France.

This conjunction occurs every

twenty years and has been con-

sidered highly important. Serious

political upheavals generally occur

in the countries ruled by the

signs in which this conjunction

A few instances of the power

that the conjunction of these

planets have had over countries in

the past may be cited. In 1861,

this conjunction was followed by

the war between Prussia and Aus-

was at that time in Libra, the rul-

ing sign of Austria. Another con-

junction occurred in Virgo in 1870

and the French-Prussian war fol-

lowed and the Siege of Paris, which

In 1901, the conjunction of Sat-

urn and Jupiter occurred in the

sign Capricorn. India is ruled by

Capricorn. The war following this

city is ruled by Virgo.

The planet of war, Mars,

Upper Silesia, also parts of

general the attitude of all those who

he could to relieve our situation by giving us supplies. As far as I remember, Harris called on me on the second day and said to me: 'I think the entire event will be interpreted in a wrong light in the United States. But, as I have watched all this atmosphere, I can only welcome the fact that' you have assumed the power, on condition, of course, that you look upon your power as temporary, and that your fundamental task shall be to lead the people to the moment when they take over the government in their own hands, when they can

their own will.' "I said to him: "This is indeed my fundamental task. I shall riot abuse my powers, and shall not remain in office one day longer than

elect a government according to

"Then Harris said to me: 'I sympathize with you and believe that if you go along this road and fulfill the tasks confronting you, we shall also work together in the future."

#### Assembly Members Slain

Popov asked:

"Do you know that Chernov and his comrades were saved by the Czechs by armed force from the Russian convoy who were taking them away to have them shot?" Kolchak replied:

"It seems to me this was not so. They were arrested by General But the Czech National Council\_demanded that they be sent to Chelyabinsk, and General Gaida obeyed this order. As to the attack of the Czechs on the Russian convoy, I do not know about it. When I received a list of the twenty arrested members of the Constituent Assembly it appeared that, with the exception of Devyatov, none of those who signed the telegram was on the list."

"What was the fate of these men and who was responsible for what happened to them? Do you know that most of them were shot?" Kolchak replied:

"About eight or nine were shot during the uprising on December 20. The chief of staff, Lebedov, informed me that an uprising was planned by the railroad men, that it would start with a strike, and that the whole affair would be arranged under Soviet slogans. On the eve of the expected uprising Lebedov reported to me that the Bolshevist staff, consisting of twenty men, were arrested.

"He said that this would probably end the uprising. He told me that an investigation was in progress regarding the men arrested. I know arrest. On the day of the uprising Lebedov reported to me that all the prisoners had fled and that the prison was empty. I asked him: 'Have the members of the Constituent Assembly also escaped?' Lebedov said: 'Yes, they escaped.' Then he informed me that the court-martial was to start that evening.

fifth and concluding installment of the real, hitherto untold story of Admiral Kolchak; how he was made Dictator of Siberia by the Allies in the hope of crushing the Soviet Government; his meteoric career, his capture by the Bolsheviki and his tragic death. It is virtually Admiral Kolchak's own story. The narrative is compiled from steno-

THE WASHINGTON TIMES presents herewith the

graphic notes made at the six-day trial of the ill-fated dictator, in which he told frankly the full details of his peril-The notes were obtained by Karl H. Von Wiegand.

staff correspondent of the Washington Times at Berlin, from

Czecho-Slovakian officers of Siberia the official transcript the testimony. These notes were thereafter translated and edited by Herman Bernstein, the celebrated international journalist. Mr. Bernstein was in Siberia at the time Kolchak was proclaimed dictator, and supplies important data to amplify Kolchak's own narrative.

"I received a note from Volcgodsky saying that members of the Constituent Assembly who had no connection with the uprising were being court-martialed. I immediately wrote a letter saying that they must not be court-martialed or tried mation came to me as a surprise,

without my knowledge. His inforfor I had been informed they had had all fled. I afterward learned that a number of them had voluntarily returned to prison. I sent my letter to the chief of the garrison, Brzeżovsky, head of the courtmartial. That was between 10 and 11 o'clock in the evening.

"At about 10 o'clock next morning Vologodsky, Telberg and Starinkevitch came to my house. By that time I had received from Brzezovsky a list of the arrested members of the Constituent Assembly. He wrote that my order was carried out and submitted a list of the members now in prison, who would not be tried. I was surprised that the list contained less than half the names. When I received Vologodosky, he said:

#### 43 Workmen Executed

"A terrible thing has happened. We do not know who has done it, or by whose order it was done. But during the night eight or nine members of the Constituent Assembly were shot and their bodies were found near the Irtish river. "I ordered that the chief military

prosecutor, Colonel Kuznetsov, come immediately. When he arrived I asked him to listen to Vologodsky's report, and then start an immediate was directed against me personally to discredit my government and myself in the eyes of the foreigners.

"After they had left, Lebedev came to see me. He said that the members of the Consituent Assembly had not been tried, but were ordered back to prison, and on the way they were shot. Later I learned that Bartashevaky was the chief of the convoy that shot them. He gave as a reason that they attempted to escape. I asked whether Bartashevsky was arrested. I was told that he and his men were questioned and all of them testified that the prisoners tried to flee."

Popov asked:

"Do you know the chief of the artillery school, Rubtsov? From Colonel Kuznetsov's report it appears that Rubtsov came to the prison and asked that Devyatov, I and another man be given to him. I was sick with spotted typhus and the prison administration refused to let me go. Besides, the officers themselves did not dare enter the typhus ward. So they took Kirlenko and Devyatov. Afterwards Bartashevsky came and asked for Devyatov and myself. Devyatov had already gone, and I could not be taken." Kolchak said:

"I know that Rubtsov went to orison in order to carry out the instructions of the court, but he did not take part in any of the execu-

Then Popov declared: "There had been no verdict as yet.

He simply came with a demand for these three persons-Popov, Devyatov and Kirlenko. He led Devyatov and Kirlenko away. They were taken, together with forty-three workmen, to the outskirts of the city, and were shot there. Bartashevsky took the others. As far as Bartashevsky is concerned, when he learned that Devystov and Kirienko had been already taken away, he selected eight men at random and took them along. These men were also shot. The extraordiestablished these facts and ordered Bartashevsky's arrest. He was imprisoned for two months, then liberated as a reliable man. Were you aware of these facts, and what did you, as supreme ruler, do in the

Kolchak replied:

was heard about him." Popov asked:

"Did you know that six officers participated in these shootings The investigating commission has their names. Did you know that not one of them was arrested? Do you know that members of the Constituent Assembly were murdered, and that others not members of the Constituent Assembly and who had not the slightest connection with the uprising were also murdered?" Kolchak said:

"The lists of those who were shot were submitted to me. I believe the names of Mayevsky and Fomin were mentioned in those lists."

"How were the executions carried out in Kulimsino?" asked Popov.

"The shooting was in accordance with the verdict of the military court which was established there immediately upon the occupation of

"Was any record kept of the trials?"

"The court-martial was conducted in the usual way."

"You should have known that there was no court at all in Kulimzino, that three officers were sitting there, that groups of ten to fifteen workmen were brought over to them, that the officers gave their orders immediately and the workmen were taken away and shot."

"I had no such information . . . I received information that the court had sentenced eighteen or twenty men to be shot," Kolchak.

Deinike asked: "Did you know that aside from

the executions ordered by the courtmartial, mass floggings were practiced, that women in particular were flogged?" Kolchak-"Nobody has ever re-

ported to me about such floggings. There was a definite order forbidding corporal punishment. Consequently I could not know that flogging was practiced. When I learned of floggings I ordered the guilty to be placed on trial, and they were removed from office."

# Massacre of 500

Popov-"Do you know that some of the persons arrested in connection with the uprising were subjected to terrible tortures at the counter espionage department?" Kolchak-"Nobody reported to

me about that, and I believe that there were no such terrible tortures." Popov-"I myself have seen peo-

ple who were tortured and muti-

lated there, and whose wounds had Kolchalk-"If such things were done, I could have learned of them only indirectly."

Popov-"Do you know that all these things were committed at the headquarters of the Supreme Ruler

Kolchak-"I did not know it,

"STILL AT WAR WITH GERMANY," HIS BASIS **EXCUSING SLAYINGS** 

Admiral Vainly Tried to Offer Evidence That He Was Not Responsible for the Wave of Bloodshed That Marked His Short But Terrible Rule Over the People of Siberia, But When at Last He Saw That the Tribunal Would Judge Him Guilty. He Played the Game—Stood Erect and Facing Firing Squad

lieve anything like this could done at my headquarters."

Popov-"Do you know that Kulimzino about 500 people were shot in groups of fifty or sixty at a

Kolchak-"I was told that the general losses—"
Popov—"There was no battle

there at all. The workmen were captured and shot right there on the snot. Do you know that one of those shot in connection with the trial of the eleven Communists testifled that he was a Communist only because his arms were broken during tortures?"

Kolchak-"I hear this for the first time."

Popov-"Do you know that Rozanov gave instructions to burn down villages and hamlets at the slightest attempt at uprising and that villages in which firearms were found were also to be destroyed by fire?"

Kolchak-"I do not think such instructions were given by Rozanov. There are telegrams that I sent to Artemyev and Rozanov in this connection, giving general instructions as to how to act in similar cases of uprisings. I pointed out that the people in such instances should be fined, that their property should be confiscated, and that their land should be given to those who suppressed the uprising. Thus there were no general instructions with regard to burning villages, but I consider that in the course of battles it is sometimes necessary to resort to such messures. Perhaps you have specific facts that Rozanov gave such instructions?"

Popov-"We have Syromyatnikovis testimony on this point." Kolchak-"As far as I know

three villages were burnt down, and I believe that they acted properly in these cases. The following villages were burnt: Stepano-Badzhiskoyeif I remember correctly it was destroyed by the rebels themselves when they were leaving. The second was Kiansk, and the third somewhere in the north. All these cases

were of a purely military character, The villages were fortified points destroyed in the regular way. Women and children were hardly persecuted."

Popov-"The villages were burnt after they had been taken by your troops."

Kolchak-"I do not know that. only know that Stepano-Babzhiskoye was a fortified hase, and it was destroyed as such. During a war such fortified points cannot be treated as the dwelling of non-combatants. I must say that these instances were rare. I recently talked about this matter with a member of the military revolutionary committee. He asked me whether I knew of the savage acts committed by the troops during the suppression of the uprising. I said that in general I knew about them, but had no specific facts. The men who violated the law would naturally not report to me about it. He asked me: 'Do you know that in one village we found several people whose ears and noses had been cut off by your troops?' I said: 'I do not know this and do not believe such cases happened.' "

#### Execution of Kolchak.

This was the end of the cross-examination of Admiral Kolchak. The dictator was found guilty by the revolutionary tribunal, and was executed on the following day. Kolchak's last moments were

marked by a high courage and calm acceptance of his fate. At 6 o'clock on the morning of

February 7, 1920; he was summoned from his cell in the prison at Ir-· kutak by the officer of a firing squad. Courteously he bowed and files of his executioners.

They marched him into the courtyard of the prison, where, with unflinching demeanor, he faced the rifles, waiting for the end. The shots rang out. Kolchak crumpled and fell dead. Even his executioners were forced to admit that the

# UNTIL 1944, ASTROLOGIST REVEALS MARS WILL SWAY

Anglo-Japanese Alliance May Have Been Caused by Opposite Zodiacal Signs-Conference on Armament Has Stars Opposing It, and Planets Work Against the Powers in Washington. Motives of the Individual Nations Revealed.

By BELLE HART. Astrologist.

The World National Armament Conference may well be likened to a bright beaming sun that has risen in Washington, D. C., the capital city of the great nation of the world. The conference has, by its potent national importance, focused its rays on the various powers of the world-America, England, France, Japan, Italy, Spain, Holland, Portugal, Belgium, China, etc.

As the mind of the world rests + upon the result of this conference and as Astrology has played an important part as an indicator of conditions in past centuries, the science of the stars may be used as a medium for analyzing the outcome of the present conference. The organizing principle of the nations depends largely upon the support given the conference by right application of facts and vivifying principles.

Owing to the friendly aspect of Neptune, the planet ruling the higher mind, to Gemini, the ruling sign of the United States, this sign of the United States swaying the mental faculties, in a great measure, we may look to America to provide the nations with structual, vital and psychological support, thereby helping to direct the agencies of the allied powers over an actual period of grave importance, an epoch maker for future history.

It may be stated here that the conjunction of the planets Jupiter and Saturn occurred in Virgo in

Russo-Japanese war which lasted from 1904 to 1905. The unsettled condition that has been going on in India since that time shows the powerful influence of these planets coming to the con-

junction in the different sign of the

Zodiac and their relative bearing on

east of Europe and Russia in the

the countries ruled by the signs. The planets Jupiter and Saturn are at present passing through the sign of the balance, Libra. The zodiacal sign Libra rules Japan. China and Austria. This sign is opposed to the sign Aries which rules Great Britain and as opposites attract, this may be the cause of the pact between Japan and Eng-

It will be interesting, at least, to watch the result that may come of this planetary influence.

Jupiter passing through the ruling sign of a century brings prosperity, trade and reforms that are beneficial to the Government.

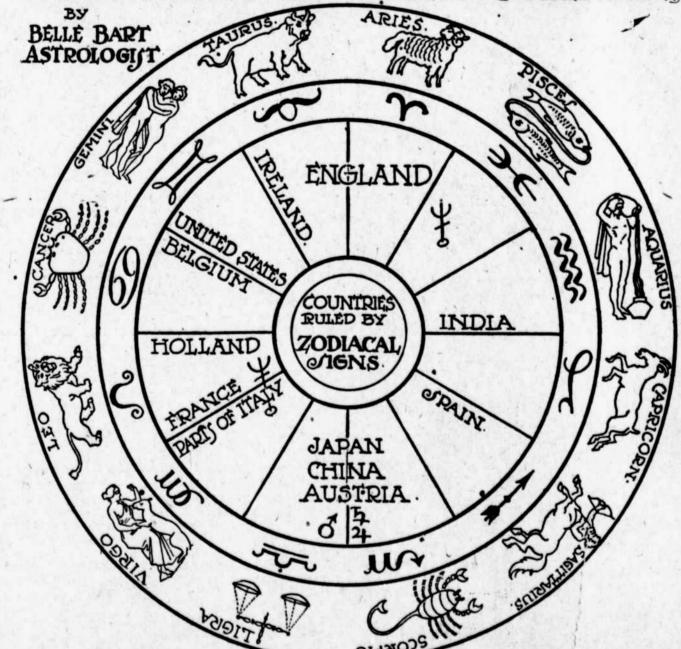
## Effects of Mars.

Saturn transiting through the ruling sign causes hindrances of various kinds by affecting the health of the nations and by its vibrations causing political changes of national importance. As Libra, the sign of the scales of Justice, houses these two planets, neither Saturn nor Jupiter will completely hold sway but will be weighed in the scales and dealt with justly by the representatives of the combined national forces, indicating that we are not dealing with individual principles of nations, rulers or powers, but with their united activities.

The planet Mars, representative of energy, strength and courage, also in the sign Libra. The countries ruled by the sign through which Mars passes are generally the center of activity and argumenta-

This planet is significantly com-

HOW PLANETS BLOCK ARMS PARLEY POSITION OF HEAVENLY BODIES DURING WORLD NATION ARMAMENT CONFERENCE.



Jupiter, However, Indicates That She Will Calm Warlike Excitement That Prevails in U.S. Horoscope, Says Belle Hart, Secress-This Influence Will Mean Much to European Nations and Will Aid Them to Recover.

ing to the conjunction of Jupiter. and when these two bodies join, they usually bring an excitable spirit into the public life, arousing enthusiasm and activity in politics and business, threatening disagreement of foreign affairs and causing heavy expenditure. In Europe, the effects will be felt

in Russia, Poland, Hungary, Austria and Italy.

In America, at present, Mars being the planet of quick action, may send a wave of excitement of a martial nature through the land, but being allied with the benign influences of Jupiter, benefits will result through friends and allies abroad. The planet Uranus producing changes and acting as an expulsion, is in the sign Pisces. This sign represents the dissolution of the old age and symbolizes the temperament of the world at the present time, also that of national politics. and by the uncertainty of the action of Uranus, much must obviously change in the future.

## Progress Forecast.

Owing to the present cycle ruled by the planet Mars, which remains in force until the year 1944, we cannot, therefore, hope for an entire peaceful response of all national powers until the passing of this cycle, and the nature of events durin this period lies in the judgment of the different powers and their ability to respond to influences.

Summing up the present conference, it will at least be the means of solving the motives of the indi-. nation trying to overreach the high vidual nations for the future. The past has wound its golden

cord on the swirl of fate and upon it depends the future. All human powers as well as countries believe that the past has closed its reign of strife, caused by industrial and financial bodies and policies, teach water mark of its protagonist powers in their human progress.

Moon No 'Road Hog' of Sky, Says Astronomer TONDON, Dec. 10. - All's well

with the moon. The world can continue without qualms to revolve on its axis as be-

The suggestion that the Queen of the Heavens is a kind of celestial road hog is gently but firmly denied by the superintendent of the Kew observatory.

"I am not aware," said Dr. C. Chree, "of any abnormal happenings in connection with the moon during recent times. The fact that the moon is off its course and ahead of time can hardly be attributed to extra speed. It merely shows that modern observations are more accurate than those of our predecessors. Any suggestion of unknown forces tugging the moon is just a confession that even now astronomers are not wordperfect in the causes of things. This is a scare, and no more.

"It is sad how prejudicial to science such playing to the gallery